

## **SNOW REMOVAL POLICY**

### **#2001-02**

#### **Policy:**

It is the goal and intent of the Town of Milton to provide timely, efficient and cost effective winter maintenance, snow removal and ice control on the roadways of the municipality for the safety and benefit of the Town's residents and the general motoring public.

#### **Procedure:**

Due to the many variations that are inherent in New England weather, each storm and/or weather event may require slightly different effort and/or emphasis on any number of maintenance tasks, which together, determine the overall winter maintenance snow removal or ice control strategy.

It is not possible to maintain a black snow and ice free road or sidewalk during a storm. It is the intent of the Town to provide practical, safe access to homes, businesses and municipal facilities during winter storms. The town of Milton does not have a bare roads policy and as such, citizens and motorists should expect to find snow covered areas during and after the winter storm.

It is our policy to conduct snow removal operations upon accumulations of two to three inches of snowfall or at the discretion of the Director of Public Works. Pre-treatment and ice control may be addressed prior to the actual storm event, during the storm as needed and after the storm. It should be noted that salt has a much slower effect on melting snow and ice at temperatures below 25 degrees and may not be applied until it is warmer.

All routes begin from the Public Works garage and operators will work systematically around their respective routes. No operator will leave his or her assigned route unless he/she has the approval of the Director of Public Works or his/her appointed designee.

Treatment of the roads may consist of sand, sand/salt mix or straight salt. The Director of Public Works or his/her designee will determine the most appropriate material to use based upon current weather, expected weather, time of year and temperature.

During storms of a long duration, the Director of Public Works may elect to bring the crews in for a rest period. This rest period should occur late at night or at a period of time during the day when the majority of traffic has ceased. This period will last no longer than 4 hours and may last for a shorter time period if weather conditions change. It will be the responsibility of all operators to be sure and get the needed rest during this period.

Direction of all winter maintenance activities for the Town of Milton is vested with the Director of Public Works or his/her designee.

#### **Roads:**

The Town shall remove snow on Class V roads which have been accepted by the Town and any other road which has been approved for snow removal by the Board of Selectmen.

#### **Schools:**

The Public Works Department does not have the responsibility for the clearing of snow and winter treatment of the Town schools access roads and parking lots. On days when school is in session, winter maintenance efforts on school property must be timed to coincide with bus routing and delivery.

The School Superintendent or his/her designee shall contact the Director of Public Works to determine the condition of the Town's roads in order to determine the safety of students using the school buses. The school representative shall make the decision to cancel or postpone school for that day.

#### **Parking:**

The Town has enacted a winter parking ban, which is effective December 1 through April 15 of each year. The ban prohibits parking in or on all public ways and Town streets between the hours of 10:30 PM and 7:00 AM. Each

violation will be subject to a fine of \$10.00 and a towing fee. The purpose of the winter parking ban is to allow winter maintenance crews unobstructed snow removal or ice control measures.

**Sidewalks:**

Snow removal from sidewalks shall be the responsibility of the Public Works Department. Sidewalks shall be cleared of snow and/or sanded/salted in a timely manner during and after the storm event. All efforts shall be made to clear the sidewalks of snow and ice.

**Private Property in Road Right of Way:**

It should be noted that the Town is not held responsible for damage to private property that is located within the public right of way. The right of way (ROW) is often 50 feet wide and is often confused by property owners as their own property. In most cases the ROW often extends 10 to 20 feet of either side of the paved or gravel road. Homeowners often cultivate extensions of their lawns, place mailboxes and erect fences or stone walls in these areas which improves the appearance of the street but is obstructive to conducting road maintenance and snow removal.

In the event of personal property damage, the Town of Milton will only be responsible to repair or replace damaged property that is on private property and not within the right of way and which has been in actual contact with the snow removal equipment. Damaged personal property which has not been in actual contact with snow removal equipment and which is not in the right of way will not be replaced. Such damage is caused by an act of nature.

As determined by the Director of Public Works, the snow banks resulting from the previous accumulation shall be pushed back or shelved to make space for future snowstorms. During the initial stages of the storm, roadways and sidewalks in the center(s) of Milton and Milton Mills shall be plowed. After the storm, curbside burms shall be removed in these areas.

**Execution:**

This policy is intended to serve as the normal operating procedures for winter maintenance, snow removal and/or ice control for the Town of Milton. One or more of the following may delay or prevent the implementation of all or parts of this policy:

- Equipment breakdown
- Snow accumulation in excess of 1 inch per hour
- Freezing rain or other icing conditions
- Traffic congestion
- Emergencies
- Personal illness

The Town of Milton has adopted the Snow Removal Policy, effective the meeting at which it is adopted. All residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the content as it describes the condition that one might expect to encounter before, during and following a winter storm event.